

Dec-16-02 04:24pm From-
Securities Operations

T-754 P.002/003 F-080
20 BROAD STREET
New York, NY 10005



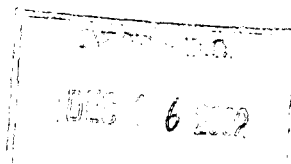
02064874

tel: 212.656.5026
fax: 212.656.5893
pmadho@nyse.com

1-31566



December 16, 2002



Mr. Brian Johnson
Branch Chief
Securities and Exchange Commission
Branch of Filer Support 2
Room 1004 -- STOP/1-4
450 Fifth Street, NW
Judiciary Plaza
Washington, DC 20549

Dear Mr. Johnson:

The New York Stock Exchange certifies approval for listing and registration under the Securities Exchange Act of 1933, Provident Financial Services, Inc., Common Stock par value \$0.01 per share. The NYSE requests simultaneous acceleration of registration of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, together with the 1933 Act. Adequate distribution assured. Form 8-A received on December 16, 2002. Tentative listing date -- January 16, 2003.

Sincerely,

PROCESSED

DEC 17 2002

THOMSON
FINANCIAL